



Environmental Protection Agency

Vacancy Listing Report

Vacancy Number: Reg 9-MP-2006-0113

Vacancy Description: Life / Env. Scientist, GS-401 / 1301-13 (Pesticides)

Vac/Duty Loc 1: 1, San Francisco County, CA

Vac/Duty Loc 2:

Vac/Duty Loc 3:

Series/Grade: GS-0401Z/1301-13/13

Hiring Agency: Environmental Protection Agency

Contact Information: Yvette Sandoval, 415-972-3823, sandoval.yvette@epa.gov

Promotion Potential: GS-13

Date Opened: 9/18/06

Date Closed: 10/6/06

Salary: 84713 - 110122

Information:

BEFORE APPLYING, PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE ANNOUNCEMENT AND PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO "HOW TO APPLY FOR THIS VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT" AND THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION NECESSARY IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED.

This position is an interdisciplinary position and is also being advertised concurrently under announcement number Reg 9-DE-2006-0050.

In order to be considered under multiple announcements applicants must apply separately under each announcement. This is an interdisciplinary position which may be filled by as either an Environmental Scientist or Life Scientist dependent upon the selectee's qualifications.

The vacancy may be filled by means other than this announcement.

RELOCATION EXPENSES:

Travel, transportation, and relocation expenses will not be paid by the Agency. Any travel, transportation, and relocation expenses associated with reporting for duty in this position will be the responsibility of the selected candidate.

WHO MAY APPLY:

This merit promotion announcement is open to current permanent employees throughout EPA and federal employees nationwide (current and former with reinstatement eligibility). In addition, applications from individuals who are eligible for consideration under a special hiring authority i.e., persons with disabilities who qualify for Schedule A appointments; 30% or more disabled veterans; veterans eligible for appointments under the Veteran's Recruitment Act; preference eligibles or veterans who are honorably discharged from the armed forces after three or more years of active service and who meet the requirements under the Veterans Employment Opportunity Act (VEOA); Peace Corps/VISTA returnees; and PHS Officers) will also be accepted. If



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you wish to be considered non-competitively under a special hiring authority, you must indicate on your application the special authority under which you wish to be considered and submit proof of your eligibility with your application materials.

APPLICANTS MUST BE U. S. CITIZENS OR RESIDENTS OF AMERICAN SAMOA OR SWAINS ISLAND.

LOCATION OF POSITION:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Communities and Ecosystems Division, Pesticides Office, Region 9, San Francisco, CA.

NUMBER OF POSITIONS: 1 (Full-Time)

SALARY RANGE:

GS-13: \$84,713 - \$110,122 per annum

PROMOTIONAL POTENTIAL:

The highest grade (full performance level) of this position is GS-13.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK AT THE GS-13 LEVEL:

The incumbent serves as a member of an interdisciplinary team specializing in addressing environmental and health concerns stemming from pesticide use. Specifically, the incumbent reviews research on effects of pesticides on air and water. Incumbent serves as the lead for pesticide related water issues in Region 9, working with States and Tribes, EPA headquarters, and other Regions to ensure effects of pesticides on water are taken into account when licensing pesticides. Provides input and stimulates national policy discussion on issues to protect occupational workers from exposure to pesticides. Develops "issue papers" as necessary to assist EPA HQ in understanding national/regional impacts of registration decisions affecting the environment as well as workers. Provides technical expertise and programmatic support to other programs in Communities and Ecosystems Division as well as to other R9 Divisions, including the development and prosecution of enforcement cases. In addition, the incumbent is responsible for overseeing the pesticide cooperative agreement components that include water quality efforts. Associated responsibilities include developing state/tribal specific guidance for the FIFRA pesticides water quality cooperative agreements, taking into account both national and regional priorities, and negotiating the fiscal year work plan with the state/tribe using the guidance as a template.

EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS: The position may be subject to one or more of the following:

Union: ☐ ESC

Medical Monitoring: NO ☐



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Drug Testing: ☐ NO
Financial Disclosure: NO
Supervisory Probationary Period: NO
One Year Probationary Period: YES (If applicable)
Position Sensitivity Level: Non-sensitive ☐

BASIC QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Environmental Scientist:

A. Successful completion of an undergraduate or higher degree in physical sciences or engineering that included 24 semester units in physical sciences (e.g., physics, chemistry, hydrology, geology, etc.) and/or engineering sciences (e.g., mechanics, dynamics, properties of materials, electronics, etc.); OR

B. Combination of education and experience - education equivalent to one of the majors shown in A above that included at least 24 semester hours in physical science and/or related engineering science, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

Life Scientist:

A. Degree: biological sciences, natural resources management, toxicology, or related life science disciplines appropriate to the position that included 24 semester units of life sciences (e.g., biology, toxicology, etc.); OR

B. Combination of education and experience - education equivalent to one of the majors shown in A above that included at least 24 semester units in life science plus appropriate experience.

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants must meet the specialized experience requirements, including any selective placement factor(s), described in this announcement and U.S. Office of Personnel Management's Operating Manual for Qualifications Standards (www.opm.gov/qualifications/index.htm). Part-time experience is prorated in crediting experience (e.g., if you work 20 hours per week for 12-months period, you will be credited with 6 months of experience). Education must be in course work listed under "Basic Qualification Requirements."

For the GS-13 level:

One year of full-time specialized experience applying physical/biological sciences in an environmental program requiring interpretation and analysis of scientific findings as they apply to air or water and pesticides.

Specialized experience is experience that equips the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform successfully



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the duties of the position, and that is typically in or related to the work of the position to be filled. To be creditable, specialized experience must have been equivalent to at least the next lower grade level in the normal line of progression for the occupation in the organization.

There is no allowable substitution of education for the GS-13 level.

Note: Education must be in course work listed under "Basic Qualification Requirements."

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

Applicants who meet the qualification requirements will be further evaluated on their responses to the on-line announcement questions. Applicants will be rated on the extent and quality of experience, education, and training relevant to the duties of the position. Eligible applicants will receive a numerical rating based on their responses to the application questions for this position submitted online via EZHire@EPA. These responses must be substantiated by your online resume. Applicants who do not respond to the application questions may be rated ineligible.

Note: EZhire will assign a tentative rating based on your response to the application assessment questions. This tentative rating is subject to change once your application package (including your response to the applicant assessment questions) is reviewed by a Human Resources Specialist.

WARNING! Your answers will be verified against information provided in your on-line resume. Be sure that your resume clearly supports your responses to all the questions by addressing experience and education relevant to this position. If you exaggerate or falsify your experience and/or education, you may be removed from employment consideration. You should make a fair and accurate assessment of your qualifications.

HOW TO APPLY FOR THIS VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT:

Please follow directions for paragraphs 1, 2 and A through E.

1. Resume and application questions for this vacancy **MUST** be received on-line via the www.epa.gov/ezhire web site **BEFORE** midnight Eastern Standard Time (EST) on the closing date of this announcement. If you fail to submit a **COMPLETE** online resume, you **WILL NOT** be considered for this position. U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) pamphlet (OF-510), Applying for a Federal Job, explains what information your resume must contain in order for your resume to be considered complete. You may view OF-510, Applying for a Federal Job, from the OPM web site at www.opm.gov/forms/html/of.asp. Paper applications **WILL NOT** be accepted and requests for extensions **WILL NOT** be granted. If applying online poses a hardship to any applicant, the servicing Human Resources Office listed on the



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announcement will provide assistance to ensure that applications are submitted online by the closing date. Applicants MUST CONTACT the servicing Human Resources Office PRIOR TO THE CLOSING DATE to speak to someone who can provide assistance for online submission. If you have accessed this announcement from an alternate web site please visit www.epa.gov/ezhire to apply for this position.

2. Submit all required supplemental application materials by the closing date of the announcement (including Saturdays, Sundays, or government holidays). SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE SENT TO EITHER THE CONTACT ADDRESS OR FAX NUMBER IDENTIFIED BELOW AND MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER FOR WHICH APPLYING. Any materials received after the closing date of the announcement will not be accepted. Failure to clearly mark each document with your name and announcement number may result in your application not being accepted for employment consideration. Supplemental application materials may include one or more of the following:

A. For non-EPA Region 9 employees, submit a copy of your most recent SF-50 Notification of Personnel Action OR the last SF-50 that indicated you held a non-temporary competitive service position (for reinstatement or transfer eligibility) or if you are in an excepted service position, your appointment SF-50 that indicates how you were appointed into the Federal Government. If you are not at the full performance level in your current position, be sure to submit an SF-50 that indicates your position's fully known performance potential (Mandatory, if applicable - Failure to submit by the closing date will result in an ineligible rating.)

B. If the position announcement lists the completion of specific college course work under the qualification requirements, submit a copy of college transcripts or provide a list of college courses completed. A list of college courses must identify the department under which the college course was taken, course number, and number of semester or quarter units completed. (Mandatory, if applicable - Failure to submit by the closing date will result in an ineligible rating.)

C. Foreign Education: If you are qualifying for this position in part based upon the completion of a foreign degree, applicants must have their foreign education certified by an accredited American Academic Institute or private credentials evaluation service.
Reference: www.opm.gov/qualifications/Sec-II/s2-e4.htm#e4a
(Mandatory, if applicable - Failure to submit by the closing date will result in an ineligible rating.)

D. Candidates applying under any one of the following listed competitive or non-competitive hiring authorities must submit proof of your eligibility as follows. (Mandatory, if applicable - Failure to submit by the closing date will result in an ineligible rating.)



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Public Health Service Officer: PHS Orders

Peace Corps/VISTA Returnees: Description of service issued by Peace Corps/VISTA

People with Disabilities: Letter from Department of Rehabilitation indicating you are Schedule A eligible.

Veterans applying under either the Veterans Recruitment Act (VRA), 30%

Disabled Veteran or the Veterans Employment Opportunity Act (VEOA)

(Reference <http://www.opm.gov/veterans/html/vetsinfo.pdf> or

<http://www.opm.gov/veterans/html/vetguide.asp>):

DD-214 Discharge Papers

SF-15 Application for 10 point Veterans Preference (Mandatory if applicable)

Supporting documentation as required by SF-15 (Mandatory if applicable)

If you are claiming 10 point Veterans Preference and do not submit the SF-15 and supporting documentation listed above, you will be given Tentative Preference (5-point Veterans Preference).

E. DISPLACED EMPLOYEES REQUESTING SPECIAL SELECTION PRIORITY CONSIDERATION UNDER THE INTERAGENCY CAREER TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ICTAP).

If you are a displaced Federal employee, you may be entitled to receive special priority selection under the ICTAP. You will not receive priority consideration under ICTAP eligibility unless you submit all supporting documentation as indicated below. To receive this priority consideration you must:

1. Be a displaced Federal employee within the commute area within the last year. You must submit a copy of the appropriate documentation such as a RIF separation notice, Notification of Personnel Action (SF-50) stating you were separated by RIF, a letter from OPM or your agency documenting your priority consideration status.
2. Apply for a position at or below the grade level of the position from which you have been separated. The position must not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you were separated. If you are applying for a position with higher promotional potential, you will not be given priority consideration but will be given consideration under the Merit Promotion process.
3. Have a current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent. This must be submitted with your application package. (This requirement does not apply to candidates who are eligible due to compensable injury or disability retirement.)
4. Occupy or be displaced from a position within the local commuting area.
5. Meet minimum qualification requirements including any selective factor, if applicable, and be rated well qualified for the position.



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For more information on ICTAP eligibility requirements, please visit
<http://www.opm.gov/ctap/index.htm>.

ADDITIONAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Please include your name and the announcement number on each page of your documentation to ensure proper processing of your application.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS NOT PROPERLY LABELED OR
RECEIVED AFTER THE CLOSING DATE WILL NOT BE
CONSIDERED.

Please do not submit any additional documentation, which has not been requested in this announcement. For example, do not submit copies of resume, performance appraisals, awards, training certificates, writing samples, or any other non-requested materials.

FAX NUMBER: 415-947-8024

MAILING ADDRESS:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
Human Resources Office, MTS-8
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

WHERE TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION:

You may search www.usajobs.opm.gov or you may call our office at
(415) 972-3817.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION:

EPA provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the Agency. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

EPA is an equal opportunity employer. Selection for this position will be based solely on merit without regard to race, color, religion, age, gender, national origin, political affiliation, disability, sexual orientation, marital or family status or other differences.